



PRESS RELEASE

**OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF WEST VIRGINIA**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Steubenville, Ohio, Resident Sentenced to 12 Years, 1 Month
on Firearms and Drug Charges

WHEELING, WEST VIRGINIA — A 35 year old Steubenville, Ohio, resident was sentenced on August 26, 2008, in United States District Court in Wheeling by Judge Frederick P. Stamp, Jr.

United States Attorney Sharon L. Potter announced that TIMOTHY GARY CHRISTIAN was sentenced to 145 months imprisonment to be followed by five years of supervised release. CHRISTIAN entered guilty pleas on September 5, 2006, to one count of being a convicted felon in possession of a firearm on September 15, 2005, in Hancock County, West Virginia, and one count of distribution of more than 50 grams of cocaine base on June 14, 2006, in Midland, Pennsylvania.

CHRISTIAN's prior convictions that were the basis of the felon in possession charge included four counts of felonious assault and two counts of felonious assault on a Police Officer in Mahoning County, Ohio.

CHRISTIAN was remanded to the custody of the United States Marshal.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Randolph J. Bernard. The case was investigated by the Hancock/Brooke/Weirton Drug & Violent Crime Task Force, consisting of officers from the Weirton Police Department, the Hancock County Sheriff's Department, the Brooke County Sheriff's Department, the Hancock County Prosecuting Attorney's Office, and the Drug Enforcement Administration; the Steubenville Police Department, Narcotics Division; and the Jefferson County Sheriff's Department. Assistance in this investigation was also provided by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives.

